

Message Text

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47

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02

SPC-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01

HEW-08 (ISO) W

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R 121201Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6442

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 0918

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR ETRD EEC US

SUBJECT: EC THIRD-COUNTRY MEAT DIRECTIVE AND IMPORTS FROM THE
U.S. COMMISSION REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

REF: EC A-103 OF 3/12/73

1. SUMMARY. THE EC COMMISSION IS IN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING THE
COMMUNITY LEGISLATION NECESSARY FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION BY
DECEMBER 31, 1977 OF THE SO-CALLED THIRD-COUNTRY MEAT DIRECTIVE
SETTING FORTH THE HEALTH AND VETERINARY REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTS
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INTO THE COMMUNITY OF LIVE CATTLE, SWINE, AND MEAT FROM THIRD

COUNTRIES. AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS DRAFTING CONSISTS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LIST, TO BE PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL, OF THIRD COUNTRIES FROM WHICH MEMBER STATES WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO IMPORT LIVE ANIMALS AND MEAT. IN CONNECTION WITH THE DRAWING UP OF THIS LIST, THE COMMISSION HAS REQUESTED THE MISSION TO SUPPLY, AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME, DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION ON ANIMAL DISEASES, VETERINARY LEGISLATION, AND VETERINARY PRACTICES IN THE U.S.

ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE SEND US THE INFORMATION REQUESTED TO SUPPORT INCLUSION OF THE U.S. ON THE LIST OF AUTHORIZED COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

2. ON DECEMBER 12, 1972, THE EC COUNCIL ADOPTED THE SO-CALLED THIRD-COUNTRY MEAT DIRECTIVE CONCERNING HEALTH AND VETERINARY INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO IMPORTS INTO THE EC OF CATTLE, SWINE, AND FRESH, CHILLED, OR FROZEN MEAT (REFAIR). THE MEMBER STATES ARE SUPPOSED TO FULLY COMPLY WITH ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS DIRECTIVE BY DECEMBER 31, 1977 AT THE LATEST.

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DIRECTIVE WILL DEPEND NOT ONLY ON HARMONIZATION OF MEMBER STATES' LEGISLATION BUT ALSO ON THE ESTABLISHMENT BY THE COMMUNITY OF THE FOLLOWING LISTS.

(A) A LIST, TO BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNCIL ON A PROPOSAL FROM THE COMMISSION, OF THIRD COUNTRIES, OR PARTS OF SUCH COUNTRIES, FROM WHICH THE MEMBER STATES SHALL AUTHORIZE IMPORTS OF CATTLE, SWINE, AND MEAT. INCLUSION OF A PARTICULAR THIRD COUNTRY ON THIS LIST WILL DEPEND ON THE STATE OF LIVESTOCK HEALTH, VETERINARY PRACTICES, VETERINARY LEGISLATION, ETC. IN THAT COUNTRY.

(B) A LIST OF ESTABLISHMENTS (SLAUGHTERHOUSES, CUTTING PLANTS, OR COLD STORES) IN APPROVED THIRD COUNTRIES, FROM WHICH THE MEMBER STATES MAY AUTHORIZE IMPORTS OF FRESH MEAT.

4. THE COMMISSION IS NOW ACTIVELY SOLICITING INFORMATION ON LIVESTOCK HEALTH, VETERINARY LEGISLATION, ETC. IN THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTING THIRD COUNTRIES TO ENABLE IT TO DRAW UP, FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL, THE LIST OF THIRD COUNTRIES FROM WHICH IMPORTS WILL BE AUTHORIZED. IN THIS CONNECTION, HIJZEN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL IN THE COMMISSION'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS DIRECTORATE, UNCLASSIFIED

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HAS SENT A LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 4, 1974 TO AMBASSADOR GREENWALD REQUESTING SUCH INFORMATION. THE TEXT OF HIJZEN'S LETTER IS AS FOLLOWS:

"I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REFER COUNCIL DIRECTIVE NO 72/462 OF 12 DECEMBER 1972 ON HEALTH AND VETERINARY INSPECTION PROBLEMS UPON IMPORTATION OF BOVINE ANIMALS AND SWINE AND FRESH MEAT FROM THIRD COUNTRIES."

"A LIST OF THIRD COUNTRIES, FROM WHICH MEMBER STATES SHALL

AUTHORIZE IMPORTATION OF LIVE ANIMALS AND MEAT FROM THE VETERINARY POINT OF VIEW, MUST BE ESTABLISHED. IN VIEW OF THE CRITERIA LAID DOWN BY THE DIRECTIVE, IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL FOR THE SERVICES OF THE COMMISSION TO RECEIVE, AT THE EARLIEST TIME POSSIBLE, ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION IN THIS FIELD. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE OVERALL SITUATION PERTAINING IN YOUR COUNTRY IN RELATION TO THE BROAD REQUIREMENTS OF THE DIRECTIVE. IN PARTICULAR, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THIS GENERAL INFORMATION TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE FOLLOWING DATA:

"A) A LIST OF THE ANIMAL DISEASES THAT OCCUR IN THE DOMESTIC LIVESTOCK AND IN THE WILD LIFE OF YOUR COUNTRY WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO LISTS A AND B OF THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE OF EPIZOOTIC DISEASES. PLEASE STATE WHETHER IN CASE AN OUTBREAK OF ANY OF THESE DISEASES SHOULD OCCUR, THIS IS REPORTED TO AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OR TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY; IF SO PLEASE MENTION THE REGULARITY AND RAPIDITY OF SUCH REPORTING.

"B) A COPY OF ALL LAWS, REGULATIONS, ACTS AND ORDERS ETC... THAT ARE APPLICABLE FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ANIMAL DISEASES.

"C) DETAILS OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE VETERINARY SERVICES AND THEIR POWERS.

"D) A DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURES TO PREVENT AND CONTROL CONTAGIOUS ANIMAL DISEASES.

"E) A LIST OF YOUR REGULATIONS WITH REGARD TO ADMINISTERING TO ANIMALS FOR SLAUGHTER ANY SUBSTANCES WHICH MIGHT AFFECT THE WHOLESOMENESS OF THE MEAT.

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"F) A DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE MEAT INSPECTION SERVICES, THEIR POWER AND THE SUPERVISION TO WHICH THEY ARE SUBJECT.

"PLEASE ACCEPT, SIR, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION."

5. ACTION REQUESTED. PLEASE SEND US, AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME, THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO RESPOND TO HIJZEN'S REQUEST. FAILURE TO SUPPLY SUCH INFORMATION TO THE COMMISSION COULD RESULT IN THE EXCLUSION OF THE U.S. FROM THE LIST OF AUTHORIZED COUNTRIES.
MYERSON

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